

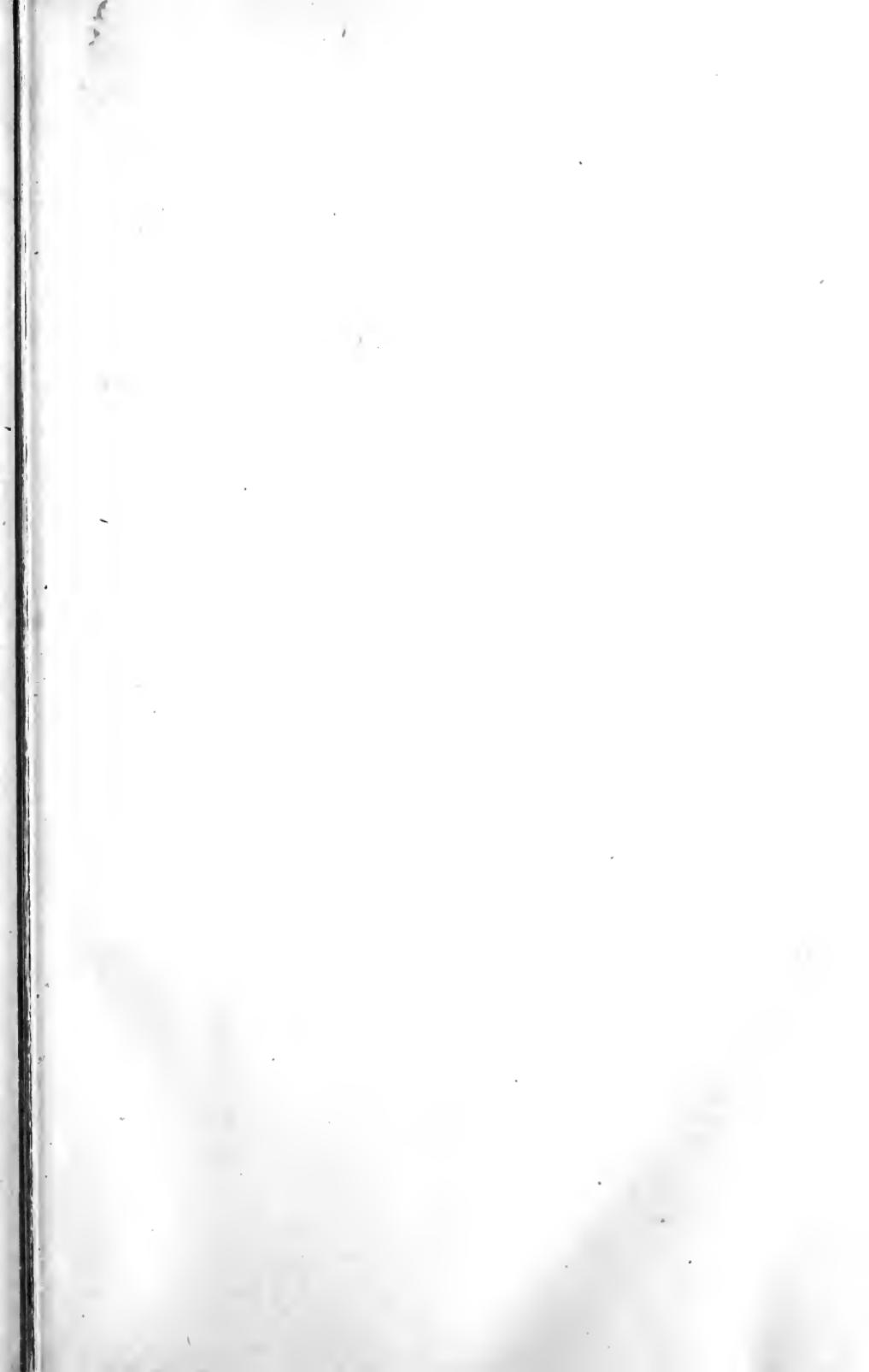
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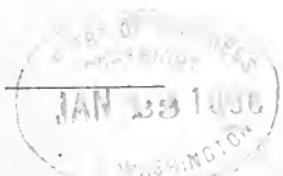
# HINTS TO HOUSEKEEPERS.

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A READY REFERENCE HAND-BOOK OF USEFUL INFORMATION AND SUGGESTIONS FOR EVERY DEPARTMENT OF THE HOUSEHOLD.

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KEEP READY FOR USE THIS LITTLE BOOK  
'T WILL REPAY THE TIME YOU TAKE TO LOOK.



HINTS PUBLISHING CO.,  
CLEVELAND, O.



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THE BRITTON PTG. CO., 45 SHERIFF ST., CLEVELAND, O.

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## LIVING ROOMS AND NURSERY.

**To Wash Windows.** Put a teaspoonful of powdered borax in warm water, wash with a piece of chamois skin and dry with newspaper.

Or; put a tablespoonful of kerosene in the water, dry and polish with newspaper.

**To Remove Old Putty.** Paint over with nitric or muriatic acid. Putty will soften in an hour.

**Finger Marks.** A flannel cloth dipped in kerosene and wrung dry is useful for removing finger marks from wood.

**To Dust Ceilings or Hardwood Floors.** Make bags of Canton flannel to draw over the broom.

**To Keep Brooms.** Never stand them broom part down. Dip them in boiling suds once a week. Best brooms are light green.

**To Remove Clinker** from stoves put common salt on the coal before making a fire.

**Soot.** Clean up soot by covering thickly with dry salt before sweeping.

**To Clean Iron Grilles, Etc.** Rub on a very little vaseline with a soft rag.

**To Stop Gas Leak.** Soften common brown soap and plaster it around the leak. Keep lava tips on burners to save gas.

**To Avoid Smoke.** After arranging a fire for lighting, in stove, furnace or grate, light a paper, or shavings, on top of the fire to create a current of hot air. Then light fire from below.

**Burning Chimney.** Put salt on the fire and close the draught.

**Oil Cloths.** Clean with clear luke warm water and flannel rag. When dry rub with cloth dampened with milk.

Or; Wash with milk and water then apply following mixture with a flannel cloth. Put half an ounce of beeswax in a saucerful of turpentine and set in a warm place until they can be thoroughly mixed. Rub off with dry flannel.

**To Clean Brass Gas Fixtures.** Rub with cut lemons and wash off with warm water.

**To Clean Brasses.** It is said to be an aid to dip a cloth in kerosene for using with the putz pomade.

**To Clean Marble.** Two parts soda, one part pumice stone, one part pulverized chalk; sift fine and mix with water. Rub well over the marble, then wash with soap and water.

**Furniture Polish.** Saturate with olive oil and apply solution of gum Arabic dissolved in hot alcohol. Apply cold.

**Paint From Windows.** Wash paint from windows with equal parts of ammonia and turpentine. Wash off with suds. Or use a hot solution of soda.

**To Stop Creaking Hinge.** Rub soft lead pencil into the crevices.

**Plaster Busts and Statuettes** can be cleaned by dipping them into thick liquid starch. When thoroughly dry remove with a brush.

**Pillows and Beds.** Do not put pillows or feather beds in the sun to air—but in a shady place, with a clear, dry wind blowing over them. If it is cloudy, but not damp, and the wind strong, it is all the better. This if practiced often will keep well-cured feathers sweet. Badly cured feathers cannot be made sweet. A hot sun on the best of feathers will turn them rancid.

**To Clean Woodwork.** When paint is thoroughly dry and clean, rubbing it over with whiting on a soft cloth will give it a nice polish.

Delicate shades of paint that are not much soiled may be cleaned by using a little whiting in the water. Grained wood can be cleaned nicely with tea of medium strength and well strained. This will not remove the gloss, which the use of soap will surely do. Ammonia in the water should never be used for cleaning paint, for, although excellent as a cleanser, it gives the surface of the paint a dull, dead look, as it removes the polish. Where the room is to be re-painted, ammonia water will remove the dirt quicker, and with less labor, than any thing else, and will be found excellent for the purpose.

**Smoked Ceiling from Kerosene.** Wash with strong solution of soda. Fill any cracks with cement made of one pint of water to one pint of silicate potash and common whiting mixed.

**Umbrellas.** Dry a wet umbrella open and upside down.

**To Soften Stiff Shoes.** Rub in vaseline or castor oil well with a cloth.

**A Tight Shoe or Boot** will go on easily if the soles are warmed thoroughly. Or wet a cloth in hot water and lay across where it pinches, changing it several times.

**To Dry Shoes**, if not wet through. Heat pebbles and put inside the shoes. It will dry them without injury to the leather. Or, stuff wet boots and shoes with paper until they have dried.

**To Make Shoes Water Tight.** Mix neatsfoot oil with a little kerosene and boiled linseed oil in a shallow dish, stand the shoes in this so that the soles are covered. Let them remain for several hours. Rub them well when taken out.

**Tender Feet.** Sponge night and morning with a solution of 1 tablespoonful of carbonate of soda to a half pint of cold water.

**Dusters.** Make dusters of cheese cloth. Shake them after using and wash frequently. For tufted furniture have a carriage brush or a round paint brush.

**To Clean Chromos.** Wipe them off with a piece of chamois skin moistened with cold tea and then polish with a little olive oil.

**Picture Frames and Glasses** can be preserved from fly specks by painting them with onion water, made by boiling three or four onions in a pint of water. Fly specks can be removed by touching them with a camel's-hair brush dipped in spirits of wine.

**To Ebonize Frames.** Scrape the old gilt off the frames. Rub them with sand paper and paint with black Japan varnish or Brunswick black.

**Regilding.** After regilding with the gold paints it insures permanency to cover the gilding with melted beeswax applied with a soft brush.

Frames varnished with copal varnish can be washed with cold water without injury.

**Oil Paintings** can be cleaned with raw potato. Cut the potato in halves and rub the picture, cutting again as the potato becomes soiled. Wipe dry with a silk handkerchief.

**To Clean Gilt Frames.** Equal parts of white of an egg and chlorate of potash. Dip a soft brush in the mixture and go over the frames.

**Hanging Pictures.** Let the cord pass through both rings and join in the center of the picture.

**To Clean Furniture.** Rub the surface with a wet cloth (with a little soda or borax in the water) dry thoroughly, then rub it with raw linseed oil and afterwards coat lightly with shellac, polishing finally with a soft cloth.

**Old Oak Furniture.** Wash it in warm beer, or weak soda and water, dry with a clean cloth. Have ready a gallon of strong beer boiling hot in which has been dissolved one ounce of beeswax and one ounce of brown sugar. Put it on with a paint brush and when dry polish with a woolen cloth.

**Delicate Cabinet Work.** A fine polish: Half a pint of linseed oil, half a pint of old ale, the white of an egg and one ounce of muriatic acid. Shake well before using. Apply with a soft cloth and rub for a few minutes. This preparation will keep a long time.

**Filling for Cracks in Floors.** Make a paste of three quarts of water to a pound of flour and a tablespoonful of alum thoroughly boiled. Soak in this while hot old newspapers till a thick pulp is formed. Stuff in cracks while warm.

**Carpets.** The oftener carpets are shaken the longer they wear.

**To Clean Carpets.** After tacking down go over the surface with a pail of suds to which a cup of alcohol and two tablespoonfuls of ammonia has been added, rinsing and wiping dry as you go along.

Or; use as above;  $\frac{3}{4}$  bar of soap dissolved in  $\frac{1}{2}$  pail of boiling water and five cents worth of salts of tartar. Use hot.

Just before sweeping carpet dip broom in hot water to which a little ammonia has been added, or use damp salt on carpet, or snow.

**To Sponge Black Silk.** Take a teaspoonful of ammonia to a cupful of cold coffee. Use soft sponge or flannel cloth.

**To Clean Gold Lace.** Rub with a soft brush dipped in burnt alum pounded and sifted. Or; grate stale bread fine and mix with powdered blueing. Lay this thickly on the lace and let it lie for awhile. Then brush off with a piece of flannel and polish gently with a piece of velvet.

**Black Lace.** Sponge the lace with an old black kid glove dipped in a solution of one teaspoonful of borax in a pint of warm water. Pull it in shape, after clapping it nearly dry with the hands, and lay it on brown paper to dry. Do not put it near the fire, nor iron it.

**To Renovate an Old Dress.** Rip the garment to pieces and brush every part well. If necessary clean with soap bark or other cleanser. Use a piece of the same goods to sponge with and stroke with the nap of the material. Press while damp with a clean cloth laid over the surface, one that will not shed lint.

**Grease Spots** can be removed by covering with dampened magnesia to be brushed off when thoroughly dry.

**Jet Passementerie.** Wipe with a soft cloth dipped in alcohol and water.

**Raise Pile of Velvet.** Hold the wrong side over a basin of boiling water keeping it taut until the pile begins to rise. Then let a second person brush it with a stiff brush.

**To Curl Ostrich Feathers.** Hold the feather over a stove or other hot iron while curling. Take a silver knife or the back of a small pen knife and draw the fibers of the feather between the thumb and dull edge of the knife, not more than three fibres at a time, beginning at the point of the feather.

**White Feathers** can be washed in warm soap suds then rinsed thoroughly and curled.

**For Cleaning Clothes.** Alcohol may be used instead of ammonia.

**Soiled Coat Collars** and other woolen goods can be nicely cleaned with soap bark. Get at druggists soap bark chips. Break a piece about two inches square into small bits and pour over it a

half pint of boiling water. Let it stand an hour or more, where it will keep warm. Sponge the goods, afterwards rinsing with warm clear water.

**To Clean Gloves.** Put the gloves on and rub with an old linen handkerchief dipped in milk and rubbed on white castile soap. Wet the entire glove and rub and pull gently until dry.

**Mend Gloves** with fine cotton instead of silk. Do not wear your best gloves in damp weather.

**To Restore Black Kid.** Add a few drops of ink to a teaspoonful of olive oil. Apply with a feather and dry in the sun.

**To Remove Iron Rust from Clothes.** Thicken lemon juice with equal parts of flour and starch and a little soft soap. Apply to the rusted spots and place in the sun.

**Pitch or Wagon Grease.** Grease the spots and after a few minutes sponge with turpentine.

**To Remove Sunburn.** Add to twelve ounces of elder flower water six drams of common soda and six drams of powdered borax. Or, Take half an ounce blanched bitter almonds and half a pint of soft water. Beat the almonds to a pulp. Add to the water, strain and use.

**To Clean the Skin.** Put a tablespoonful of tincture of benzoine in half a pint of water. Add more water if the sensation is too burning. Use with soft flannel.

**To Remove Dandruff.** Rub common salt into the roots of the hair at night and brush it out in the morning. Brush the hair frequently with a stiff brush to keep it in good condition.

**Stained Hands.** Borax water is excellent to remove stains from the hands and keep the hands in good condition.

If you have been picking or handling acid fruit and have stained your hands wash them in clear water, wipe them lightly, and while they are yet moist, strike a match and shut your hand around it so as to catch the smoke, and the stain will disappear.

Workers on fine lace and embroidery are often inconvenienced by the perspiring of their hands while at work. This can be remedied by rubbing the hands frequently in dry bran.

**To Thread a Needle.** When troubled to get the thread in try the other end of the thread.

**Squeaking Boots.** Drive a peg into the middle of the sole.

**Preparation for Cleaning gloves, ribbons and laces:** Two quarts of deodorized benzine, two drams of sulphuric ether, two drams of chloroform and four drams of alcohol. Wash the articles in it and rinse well in fresh water.

**To Clean Papered Walls.** Wipe with a flannel cloth tied over a broom. Cut a thick piece of stale bread and wipe the paper from the top down in straight lines. Renew the bread when it begins to streak the walls.

**Hard Finished Walls.** Wash them with soda and water.

**A Wash for Walls.** Soak a quarter of a pound of glue over night, add a pint of clear water in the morning and set in a warm place till the glue is all dissolved. Put five and a half pounds of Paris white into a large pail. Pour over it boiling water, stirring constantly. Add the glue. Mix it to a smooth paste. Thin with hot water and apply with white wash brush.

**Smoked Ceilings.** Clean with soda and water.

If the wall above the stove has been smoked, cover the black

patches with gum shellac and they will not strike through either paint or kalsomine.

**White-wash from Carpets.** A few drops of carbonate of ammonia in warm water will immediately remove the spots.

**White Spots on Furniture** can sometimes be removed by rubbing hard with kerosene. Or, by holding a hot iron over the spot without touching and then rubbing with an oiled cloth.

**Willow Furniture.** Scrub with a nail brush and warm water in which a little washing soda has been dissolved.

**To take Bruises from Furniture.** Wet the spot with warm water, lay over it brown paper soaked in warm water and iron until dry.

**Matting.** In turning draw the long threads through with a coarse needle. Wash mattings with salt and water.

**Cane-seat Chairs** are improved by washing. Dry them bottom upwards.

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## THE NURSERY.

Do not think that the baby is always hungry, or has colic, when he cries. Look for pins sticking, or clothes too tight.

If baby has colic he will scream and draw up his legs.

For colic try warmth to feet and bowels before dosing. A warm bath will often relieve the pain.

Give the baby plenty of fresh air but protect him from taking cold.

A child's flesh is very tender, treat it accordingly.

Keep the baby's bottle, if he must have one, clean and sweet. It is well to have two bottles that one may be thoroughly cleaned while the other is in use.

Do not let the baby have his bottle all night. Give it to him when he wakens and take it from him so soon as he falls asleep.

Never dry napkins around the nursery fire. The vapor from them is poisonous to child and nurse.

It is not safe to give a baby anything to eat but milk foods until he has begun to secrete saliva.

Babies are sometimes injured by swallowing bits of worsted from the nurse's shawl or from tufts in coverings.

Lift a baby's carriage gently over curbstones and other rough places.

Keep painted toys away from a young baby.

Beware of cold air on the floor when the weather begins to grow cold.

If the baby frets see whether his clothes are dry. How long would you endure wet clothing?

Do not burden a young girl with the care of a baby. Better let her wash the dishes and the mother tend the baby.

Teach a child to obey before he is one year old and save yourself much trouble.

Do not accustom children to light in the room at night, but arrange to get a light instantly when needed.

If a child shows great dislike to his nurse find out the reason.

A child's first teeth should be perfectly sound when they are shed. If not the child probably needs a doctor.

Children like variety in amusement as well as in food. It is good for them.

Well meaning persons often torment a child when attempting to amuse him. A child of nervous temperament should not be excited by undue laughter and romping.

Do not stimulate the mind of a bright child by "showing him off." It is safer to keep him back.

Do not wash a child's face and hands just before he goes out in the cold.

If a child strangles while eating give the white of an egg unbeaten.

When a child holds his breath, dash a little cold water in his face, or, clap his hands together quickly.

Teach children early to beware of fire; and what to do in case of their clothes catching fire.

Nurses, especially young ones, should be taught that a small fire is easily smothered out, that air increases the blaze and that a person whose clothes are on fire should lie down immediately. The greatest danger is from swallowing the fire.

A child will often not notice a slight hurt if those around him do not do so.

Use brown paper dipped in warm water for a bump.

When a child chokes on any foreign substance hold him by the heels, head downwards.

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## CURES AND EMERGENCIES.

**On all Occasions Keep Presence of Mind. Don't get Excited but Consult this Book.**

**Keep Drugs and Medicines in a dry closet out of reach of children.**

Carefully mark bottles and boxes.

See that corks and stoppers are tight.

If labels come off throw away contents unless sure of what they are.

**For Rheumatism.** Equal parts of olive oil and wintergreen. Outward application.

**Heartburn.** Half a teaspoonful of salt dissolved in a little cold water will relieve heartburn.

**Aching Feet.** Bathe in hot water with a little ammonia in it.

**Sprains.** Bathe frequently in hot water and take perfect rest.

**Burns.** Use carbolized oil. For slight burns soda will relieve. For washing deep burns, mix five drops of carbolic acid in one teaspoonful of glycerine and fifteen drops of listerine. Put this in half a pint of warm water.

**Nose Bleed.** A roll of paper pressed up behind the upper lip will stop nose bleeding.

**Ringworm.** Ten grains of iodine in an ounce of turpentine, bathe frequently.

**Corns.** A bread poultice made with strong vinegar is good for corns. Between the toes put a piece of absorbent cotton.

**Poultices.** Make all poultices large to insure heat and moisture.

Bread and milk is the simplest poultice.

Scraped carrot, boiled soft, is good for running sores.

Flaxseed poultice is good for cold on the lungs.

Be careful not to take cold after poulticing.

**Mustard Plaster.** Mix with white of egg to prevent blistering.  
**Lime in the Eyes.** Use cold sugar water.

**Thirst.** Hot drinks relieve thirst better than cold ones. Hot water is a good remedy. Also, for feverish thirst, brown to burning a slice of bread and while hot plunge it into a tumbler of cold water. Also, weak green tea and lemon juice.

**Sting of Bees.** Carefully extract the sting, then suck the wound and apply ammonia.

**Disinfectant.** Burn coffee on hot coals or on a hot stove in the room.

**Solid Food** properly masticated, is more easily digested, generally, than soups and broths.

Fats and oily substances are hard to digest. Strong mental exercise or emotion tends to impair digestion.

**Lightning.** Damp air is a conductor of electricity. Avoid a draught of air in a house during thunder storms. An open field is safer than near a tree or building during a storm. Lightning will not pass through dry silk.

**Convulsions.** Give a warm bath and put a cold cloth on the head.

**Nail in the Foot.** Make a poultice of a fresh beet thoroughly pounded. Apply frequently.

**Icy Steps.** Put salt on to cut the ice.

**Warts.** Wash them with moistened washing soda and let it dry without wiping. Do this often till they have disappeared.

**Fire.** A little fire can be easily put out with a pail of water and a mop, or a wet blanket. Every minute counts.

Do not waste time in giving an alarm if you can put the fire out yourself.

In passing through fire keep close to the floor, and, if possible, tie a wet silk handkerchief over the face.

**Mosquito Bites.** Apply listerine.

To sponge the body with a weak solution (six or seven per cent.) of carbolic acid is a protection against the sting of mosquitos and other insects.

Salt is a remedy for poison from pineapple peel.

Sage tea will prevent hair from falling out.

Honey or molasses is said to be good for a sting.

**Cholera.** Acids destroy the life of cholera germs.

Cleanliness is most important.

Boil all water used for drinking and cooking purposes.

**Disinfecting Compound.** Oil of Rosemary ten parts, lavender two and a half parts, thyme two and a half parts, mix with thirty parts of water and one and a half parts of nitric acid. Shake the bottle before using. Saturate a sponge with the compound and leave in the room to diffuse the mixture by evaporation.

**To Keep Shaved Ice.** Put a saucer containing shaved or pounded ice in a soup plate and cover it with another, then place the plates between two pillows. This will preserve ice for 24 hours.

**To Stop Bleeding.** Apply wet tea leaves.

**Sty on the Eye.** Wet black tea leaves with boiling water and bind on the eye over night, or touch with pulsatilla.

**Bee Sting.** Apply raw corn meal.

**For Ivy Poison.** Use sweet spirits of nitre.

For "dragged out feeling." Plenty of fresh air.

Prevention is better than cure.

Eat lightly and rest when indisposed from sudden cold or overwork.

Guard especially against taking cold when very tired.

Change wet clothing as soon as possible.

If frozen rub with snow till the stiffness is out, and keep from the fire.

Never Light a fire with kerosene.

Trim and fill lamps in the day time.

Never fill a lighted lamp or stove.

When Gas is Escaping in a room do not bring a light till the room is aired.

Never put your head out of a car window when the train is in motion.

Never jump from a car before it has stopped.

Always look in the direction in which you are moving.

If a horse runs away with you do not jump out of the vehicle.

Keep matches away from children and mice.

A physician says "take the elevator up and the stairs down."

In climbing a ladder look up not down.

Spotted veils are injurious to the eyes.

Never read while lying down if you value your eyes.

Turn your back to the light when reading.

Bad dreams are often caused by a tight neck band.

Volatile preparations lose their strength with keeping. Opium, and mixtures with it, grow stronger.

Eat acid fruits when using white lead paints.

To Restore Exhausted Nerves. Take a warm bath with an ounce of ammonia to each pailful of water.

Sleeplessness is often caused by hunger. Do not go to bed hungry, but do not eat heavily or of indigestible food just before retiring.

To Relieve Paroxysms of Coughing. Put a spoonful of pure glycerine in half a glass of hot milk.

For Earache. Have a hop bag ready in case of earache or neuralgia. Make it of flannel and fill it with hops. Heat for use by laying in the oven. It can be used over and over again

## CARE OF INVALIDS.

Keep the room thoroughly ventilated, temperature even, between 68 and 70 degrees.

Have pure air always and plenty of sunshine except in hot weather.

Shade the patient's eyes from daylight or gas light.

Change bed linen at least once in three days, blankets and quilts once a week. Latter can be well aired instead of washed.

In long illness watch for bed sores. If found wash with a few drops of listerine in warm water, dry thoroughly and lay linen rag, saturated with vaseline, over sore or reddened place.

Keep sheets and pillows smooth but do not disturb the patient with fussiness.

Make the meals tempting in appearance.

Do not whisper, or walk on tiptoe, speak aloud or not at all.

Do not allow talking in the next room, heard by but unintelligible to the patient.

An invalid cannot bear much talking at one time.

Do not rattle paper or move about unnecessarily. Shut doors and windows softly.

Keep all unneeded things out of the room, the less drapery the better.

Make every preparation for night early. Do not "forget something" till the patient is ready to go to sleep.

**Infection.** In such cases the visitor must not go tired or fasting into the sick room.

Do not stand in a draught from the bed to a door or fire-place.

Do not hang over the bed nor sit too close to the patient.

Be fearless and cool.

Burn all rags used in contagious diseases.

Be careful to wash by themselves spoons and dishes used in the sick room.

**Coal for Grate.** Wrap each piece in paper and they can be laid on with the hands making no noise in the sick room.

**The Tongue.** A white fur on the tongue attends simple fever and inflammation.

Yellow tongue indicates derangement of the liver, possibly typhoid fever.

A vividly red tongue, inflammation of the mucous membrane of the stomach or bowels.

A white velvety tongue attends mental diseases.

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## SWIMMING AND BATHING.

Do not go into the water for at least an hour after eating.

After the first shock of cold a warm glow should come over the body. If it does not, get out of the water.

Do not stay in a minute after the second chill. There is great danger when the skin turns blue.

Do not go into the surf above your waist if you cannot swim.

Never stand around in wet clothes till you feel chilly.

If you cannot swim and find yourself beyond your depth don't get rattled. Lie perfectly flat on your back with arms outstretched and, by very slight movements of the hands up and down, you will easily keep afloat.

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## KITCHEN.

**Very Fat Meat** requires more time to cook than lean meat.

An **Iron Pot** with soot on the bottom will boil water quicker than one without.

Don't bang the oven door when cake is in, as it makes it heavy.

Fresh meat when beginning to sour may be sweetened by placing it out of doors over night.

Don't core apples or quinces when making jelly from them.

Peal oranges easily by starting from the stem end.

Do not begin on the stem end in grating nutmegs or they will crumble.

**To Test Flour.** Good flour will hold together when squeezed tightly in the hand.

**Soap.** Don't let soap lie in dish water to waste.

**Sink.** Put washing soda dissolved in boiling water in your sink once a week. Don't throw water which has much washing powder in it into your sink unless boiling hot, for when cool it will clog the pipes.

Sprinkle salt on the stove when anything has boiled over.

**Hot Water Pipes.** Never use water from hot water pipes for cooking. Galvanized iron poisons hot water but not cold.

**Stove Polish.** Mix stove polish with strong soap suds, or add a few drops of turpentine to the blacking.

To blacken a hot stove add a little sugar to the blacking.

Keep stoves clean by rubbing them daily with newspaper.

**New Iron Kettles.** Boil potato skins in them to prevent rust. This will also take off burn from iron kettles or agate ware.

**Rest.** Keep an easy chair in your kitchen.

**Ovencloths.** Have plenty of oven cloths made from old calico. Don't use towels for ovencloths.

**New Iron.** New iron should be very gradually heated at first to prevent cracking.

**Clogged Lamp Burners.** Boil them some time in water in which a good-sized lump of saleratus and a little soap has been dissolved.

**Pie plates** that have been long in use are apt to get rancid. Put them in weak lye cold and let it come to a boil.

**Cutlery.** Never put a good knife in hot fat as it destroys the temper of the steel. Do not put ivory handles into hot water.

Do not wrap steel knives in woolen cloths, paper is better. Woolen injures steel.

**Nutmeg and Cinnamon** for sauce should be mixed through the sugar before it is wet.

**Cheese.** Keep cheese in cloth wrung out of cold water.

**Salt Pork.** To freshen, soak in milk.

**Mackerel.** Soak over night in milk and water.

**Liver.** Pour boiling water over liver before frying to take out strong taste.

**Old Fowl** or other tough meat. To make tender put half a cup of vinegar in the water in which it is boiled.

**Stewed fruit** will be sweet with less sugar if it is put in after removing from the fire.

**Spinach.** In boiling, when nearly done drain off hot water and put on cold letting it come again to boiling.

**Perfect Coffee** will be roasted at home; a light brown, not black.

**Hard Boiled Eggs.** Cook not less than twenty minutes in water just below the boiling point to prevent tough yolks.

**Cranberries** and lemons can be kept good a long time in cold water.

To keep Parsley for winter use, dip it in strong boiling salt and water and dry.

**Charcoal** is recommended as an absorbent of gases in the milk room.

**To Remove a Glass Stopper.** Put on sweet oil and set it in the sun.

**In Canning Fruit.** Stand the glass jars on a folded towel thoroughly wet with cold water and hot fruit can be put in without breaking the jar.

**Jelly.** In making jelly do a little at a time. The color and flavor are better when the jelly is made in fair weather. But after they are made keep jellies in a dark, cool, dry place.

**Oatmeal.** In making porridge do not put in salt till it has boiled ten minutes. Salt hardens the grains.

**Sardine Sandwiches.** Drain off the oil and lay sardines on soft paper before making sandwiches.

**Peas and Beans** need soft water for boiling.

**Onions** are better in hard water. Salt will harden the water.

**Meat.** To extract juice put meat in cold water without salt. To keep juice in use hot water and salt.

**To Choose a Fowl.** If young the rooster's spurs are short. If old the fowl will have an open vent, if young a close hard one. A hen, if old, has rough legs and comb—smooth ones if young.

**Radishes** with the skins scraped off will be easily digested.

**Cake.** In making cake warm the sugar before putting it to the butter to make it cream.

**Lard.** To cleanse lard heat it to boiling point, skim off the froth, slice an apple into it and cook till done.

**Currants.** To wash currants for cake use warm but not hot water. Rub the currants well with flour before washing.

**Blanching Almonds.** Drop them in cold water as you take the skins off to keep them white. Do not let them stand long in hot water.

**Fruit for Cake.** Heat fruit for cake before putting it in to keep it from going to the bottom.

**To Break Ice** without loss wrap it in a strong cloth and pound with a mallet.

**Drawn Butter.** Put the butter and flour in cold water and let it stand some time before heating. Stir while boiling one way only.

**To Preserve Eggs.** Pack them in dry salt not to touch one another.

**Custard.** In making baked custard warm the milk before adding the sugar and eggs.

Pour the hot milk *on the beaten eggs*, stir well and then return to the double kettle.

**Meat.** Never place meat directly on the ice.

**Poultry or Game.** Wipe inside and out with a cloth dipped in vinegar.

**Paring Peaches.** Dip them in boiling water then in cold to take the skins off.

**To Scald Milk.** Wet the sauce pan with cold water before putting the milk in and it will not easily scorch.

**In Making Tea.** See that the water boils, and has just commenced to boil, when poured on the tea and put on all that is needed at once.

**To Test an Oven.** Try it with a piece of white paper. If it becomes a light brown it is right for pastry; if dark yellow for bread or cake, if black for nothing.

**Doughnuts—Lard.** After frying doughnuts pour the lard into a pan and let it cool. When hard turn it out and scrape off the bottom before putting it back into the kettle.

**Firm Butter** without ice. Take a new flower pot, wrap it in a wet cloth and set it over the butter.

**Anything Mixed with water** requires a hotter oven than the same thing mixed with milk.

**A Dripping Pan** half full of cold water set on the upper grate in the oven will prevent cakes and pies from burning.

**To Cut New Bread** heat the knife and the bread will not crumble.

**To Boil Potatoes.** When the skin breaks pour off the water and let them finish cooking in their own steam.

**Gravy.** A tablespoonful of strong coffee put in white gravy gives a good flavor. In making set the pan off the fire while you stir in the flour.

**Maccaroni.** Dash cold water over maccaroni after boiling before baking.

**To Make Pie Crust Flaky.** Rub a little flour and butter together and then roll it into the crust.

If cake sticks to the pan put a wet cloth around the tin and let it stand a few minutes.

Acids will curdle milk but not cream.

**Boiled Eggs for Slicing.** They should be put in cold water and brought to boiling point. Boil fifteen minutes then take off and stand to cool in same water.

**Milky Glasses** should be rinsed in clear cold water before they are put in hot suds.

**Paring Pineapples.** Wrap a cloth around the top leaves. Stand the fruit on a table and cut the skin downwards holding the top with the left hand, pick out the eyes with a penknife and then slice, or pick up with a silver fork. Do not use same knife for cutting rind and slicing as the acid of the rind is poisonous to some persons.

**To Beat Eggs.** To beat the whites easily add a pinch of salt.

**Pies.** Wash the crust of pies with milk to make them brown quickly.

**To Seed Raisins** easily pour hot water over them, let them stand a moment then drain off the water.

**Tea, Coffee and Spices** should be kept in close cans.

**Molasses and vinegar jugs** should be kept corked.

**Kitchen Sink.** Keep a small piece of washing soda in the sink all the time. Once a week, at least, pour hot water in it till the pipes are thoroughly cleaned.

**To Detect Lead.** The least trace of lead in water may be detected by adding a few drops of tincture of cochineal. If any lead is present the water will at once become blue.

**Canned Goods.** Never leave them in the can after it is opened. Turn out at once.

Pour off the liquor from salmon and lobster. They are improved by being rinsed in cold water.

Canned meats will not keep so long as fresh meat after the can is opened.

**To Wash Mica.** Put a little vinegar in the water.

**To Pulverize Salt.** Heat it in an oven and roll with a rolling pin.

**When Boiling Onions.** Set a cup of vinegar on the stove to boil and it will destroy the odor.

**To Keep Ivory Handles White.** Wash them with a flannel dipped in soap suds, wipe very dry. Dissolve alum in water, boil it and when cold let the handles lie in it for one hour—then brush them well with an old tooth-brush. Next dip a linen towel in cold

water, squeeze it out and wrap it around the handles leaving them to dry gradually. It would injure them to dry rapidly.

**Lamps.** Wipe wicks of lamps. Do not cut them.

Breathe in the chimneys and wipe with newspaper.

Do not fill lamps quite full.

Never fill them when lighted or near a light.

**Damp Cellar or Pantry.** Keep a box of lime in it.

**Rough Hands.** When washing them use very little soap, rinse well and dry thoroughly. Keep old gloves to put on when making fires.

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## LAUNDRY.

**Dish Towels.** Boil up with a little ammonia in the water. Don't injure other clothes by putting them in the general washing.

**Flat Irons.** Wipe them on a cloth wet with kerosene and they will not scorch. Rub with salt if rusty.

**Scorched Linen.** Lay the article in the bright sun.

**Ironing.** Dry the clothes thoroughly before putting them away. Damp towels have been known to produce a skin disease.

**To Remove Stearin.** Use pure alcohol.

**To Wash Lisle Thread Gloves.** Do not use soap. Put a teaspoonful of ammonia in one quart of water. Dry on the hands.

**Fine Lace.** Use no starch but put a little fine white sugar in the rinsing water. Iron lace between two pieces of paper.

**Black Stockings.** Wash separate from other clothes if you want them to look well. Lint from white clothes is ruinous to black stockings.

**Gray and Buff Linen.** A tablespoonful of black pepper put in the first water in which gray or buff linen is washed is said to keep the color. Also good for black cambric.

**Gum Arabic** is better than starch for colored linen. Dampen the fabric with a cloth wet in gum Arabic water, a little at a time, and iron while damp, on either side of goods.

**To Stiffen Straw Hats.** Use gum Arabic water and press with a flatiron.

**To Clean Angora** or other white wool or fur. Make wheat flour very hot and rub through the wool or fur. Pin the garment on a line where the wind will blow out the flour. Stir the flour while heating.

**To Clean Feathers.** Lay them on a plate and scrub gently with a toothbrush dipped in soapsuds. Shake out and dry by a good fire. After perfectly dry curl with a pen knife.

**Ink Stains** in colored goods can be removed by first washing with warm water without soap then dipping in a weak solution of oxalic acid hot, then rinsed in warm water and the spots touched with diluted ammonia.

**To Press Velvet.** Put a wet cloth on a flat-iron and lay the velvet on it right side up. Rub the velvet gently with a dry cloth till the pile is raised. When it is dry brush with a soft brush.

**Ink Out of Linen.** Put on melted tallow and then wash.

**Fruit Stains.** Soak in kerosene before wetting with water.

**To Wash Black Goods.** Soak the goods all night in water put on warm with a little borax dissolved in it. In the morning hang on the line to drip and press when nearly dry.

## GARDEN.

**Fertilizer.** Ashes mixed in soapsuds is good for bushes.

A tablespoonful of liquid ammonia to each gallon of water is a good fertilizer. Weak manure water is also good for plants. The pure manure is too strong. Keep the earth moist, not wet.

Use tepid water for watering plants.

Before spading in the spring sow salt plentifully on the ground if the soil is inclined to be too dry. It will keep it moist.

**To Kill Grass or Weeds in Paths.** Sow salt plentifully over them when they first come up, or use strong brine.

Coal Ashes will make a good walk.

**Seed Beds.** Covering small seeds with a black cloth will hasten their germination.

**Transplanting.** Carry the plants in a pail with water in the bottom. Pour water in the hole before setting the plants.

**To Destroy Weeds.** Ten pounds of stone lime, five gallons of water and one pound of flour of sulphur. Mix together and when settled pour off the liquid and put it on the weeds.

**Grapes from Cuttings.** Have a box two feet high and two and a half wide, as long as you please. Fill the box half full of well pulverized soil; prepare the cuttings with three eyes in each one, cut smooth below the bottom one. Place them in slanting position with the last bud just above the soil. Nail some cheap white cloth tightly over the top of the box. Water with warm water every evening. Place the box in a sunny place. Plant out in a few weeks.

**To Prune Grape Vines.** Cut off half or more of the previous season's growth. Leave the largest canes and shorten these. If any small ones are kept leave three buds only on each cane.

Prune early before the vines bleed.

**Suckers from Apple Trees.** Remove them early in the season before the sap runs.

**Safest Time for Wounding Trees.** All plants that drop their leaves can be transplanted better just when the leaves have faded than at any other time. This is also a good time for pruning or wounding trees and plants.

**Cucumber Patch.** Cut the cucumbers every day. Do not allow one to go to seed if you want a good crop.

**Asparagus.** Cut large and small shoots every day till the cutting season is over.

**Sunflowers.** The stalks and seeds are said to make good fuel. "An acre of sunflowers will furnish fuel for one stove for one year."

**Pansies.** Water well and keep moderately thinned out pulling the weakest plants.

**Tube-roses.** Plant bulbs in old fruit cans without holes in the bottom, keep them warm and wet. When well started set them out in the bed.

**To Root Cuttings.** Put the cutting in a bottle filled with water. Fill around the top of the bottle with cotton. Hang the bottle in a light place but not close to a window. In two or three weeks it will have good roots, then take from the bottle and dip the roots in warm sand until each fibre is coated. Pot in a rich sandy composition spreading the roots gently. Press the soil down above them. Water well and shade them from the sun.

**Care of Rose Bushes.** Roses that bloom more than once in a season should be pruned back after the first blossoming to a strong bud. Never allow seed capsules to mature on the bushes.

**Common Elder** makes a good ornamental hedge if kept trimmed.

**Protect Young Trees**, after planting, with a frame which will shade as well as keep them from injury. It is well to wrap the trunks in straw.

**Bulbs** should be taken up on the first bright sunny day after the frost has withered the stalks. Let them dry in the sun for a few hours then cut the stalks to within a few inches of the bulb and put each kind in a separate paper bag, marking them with the name.

**Geraniums and Salvias** can be kept all winter by shaking off the dirt from the roots and hanging them, upside down, to the beams in the cellar. In the spring cut them down almost to the roots and set them out.

**House plants** require plenty of fresh air and freedom from dust. It is safe to open windows when the mercury is over 30° out of doors. All plants need some rest and those for the house should be potted early in September and kept in a dark place, with little watering, until the middle of October. After this give them all the sun and light you can. When dry give them water but do not keep them soaked.

**Temperature for House plants** should average from 60° to 70° in the day time and about 50° at night. Plants require moist air and it is well to keep a can of water on the stove in a room where they are. Water with warm water.

If plants seem sickly give them fresh soil.

"Small pots make quick bloom."

House plants need more water after January than before.

Keep the pots clean on the outside.

**To fill a Window Box.** Put in first an inch or two of broken pots, cover this with moss and then with good earth.

**Frozen Plants.** Set in a dark place and shower with cold water till the frost is out.

Charcoal mixed with the soil is good for plants.

**Soaked Earth** for house plants may cause malaria in the house.

Don't water plants when the sun is shining on them.

One hour of morning sun is worth two in the afternoon. Turn the plants frequently to insure symmetrical growth.

**Mignonette** for the house. Sow the seed in pots in September and let plants grow till just ready to bloom then transplant to a window box. For soil in the box use three parts loam, one part manure, one part leaf mold. Apply water in the mornings. Shade from the sun in the middle of the day.

**Sponge for Ornament.** Take a large sponge and soak it well in warm water. Squeeze it half dry and scatter seed of any small vine or plant in the openings. Hang the sponge near a window and sprinkle it with water every morning.

**Sweet Potato Vine.** Cut off one end of a sweet potato and lay the potato in a dish with enough water to wet the under part. Set it in a warm dark place until sprouts start, pinch off all but two or three and hang up in a sunny place.

**To Keep Cut Flowers.** Put a pinch of salt in the water in which, they are.

They can be kept a long while by laying them every evening in a shallow bowl with their stems in a little water and the whole covered with a damp towel. Cut the stems off a little each day.

**To Keep Cut Flowers Fresh** add a little carbonate of soda to the water in the vases.

**Apple Trees.** Paint the trunk with soft soap and sulphur to destroy worms and improve fruit. Five gallons of soap to one of sulphur. Put on with white wash brush.

**Red Spiders.** Keep a saucer of water among the pots. Sponges filled with water and placed in the branches of large plants will drive away red spiders.

**Lime Water** applied once or twice a week will destroy worms in pots. It may also be used for sprinkling the foliage to remove insects.

**Currant Worms.** Apply salt water with a syringe when the worms have begun to destroy the leaves. Do this in dry weather as a rain would dilute the salt. The salt water must not be strong enough to kill the leaves.

**For Rose Blight.** Equal quantities of sulphur and tobacco sprinkled over bushes when the dew is on. Also, decoction of elder leaves applied with syringe. This will also prevent fungi.

**To Kill Bugs on Vines.** Dissolve a tablespoonful of saltpetre in a pailful of water and sprinkle on vines.

**Cucumber Vines.** Cover the hills with split cotton-batting until the plants are up to keep off bugs.

**Quince Bush.** Bandage the stem with two or three wrappings of cloth as far down as possible and pack earth about two inches around the bandage, renew each spring.

**Earwigs.** Make tubes, three or four inches in length, of elder. Plug up one end, hang the tube on a stick close to the infected plant, open end downwards. In the morning remove the tube and destroy the insects in it with boiling water.

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## GENERAL INFORMATION.

**Light Gas or Candle** by holding the match to one side, not over the orifice or wick. Hold it higher than the mouth when blowing it out.

**To Make Wood Fire-Proof.** Soak in skim milk and brine.

Clean Furs with warm bran.

**Remove Match Marks from Wood** by rubbing with lemon.

**Grease Spots on Floor.** Use cold water, lay over the spot brown paper and iron it with a hot iron.

**Rubbers for Fruit Jars** when hard and stiff can be softened by boiling in water.

Tinware can be cleaned with common soda.

**To Toughen Steel.** Melt together two pounds resin, two pounds of tallow and one pound of black pitch. When hot dip in the steel.

**To Draw a Rusty Nail or Screw.** Apply a hot poker to the head of a rusty nail or screw, till it is warmed through, and the nail can be easily drawn.

**To Mend Rubber Articles.** Procure a piece of virgin India rubber. Cut it with a wet knife into thinnest possible shavings, then with sharp scissors into fine threads. Fill a wide-mouthed bottle about one-tenth full of the shredded rubber and cover with three-fourths of the bottle full of pure benzine. Shake frequently and in a few days a syrup will be formed. If it is too thin add more rubber; if too thick add benzine. Three coats of this will mend

worn places in rubber coats, boots and overshoes. It is useful also as a general cement.

Or, use equal parts of demar varnish and asphaltum with a little turpentine.

**To Clean Engravings.** Put the engraving on a clean, smooth board and cover it with a thin layer of common salt, finely pulverized, then squeeze lemon juice upon the salt until a considerable portion is dissolved. After every part of the picture is so treated raise one end of the board to form an angle of forty-five degrees. Pour boiling water on the engraving until the salt and lemon juice is all washed off. It must be dried gradually on the board. Do not put it near the fire nor in the sun.

**Stains from Prints.** Make a strong solution of chloride of lime by immersing the lime in a muslin bag in water sufficient to cover the prints. Let the prints remain in the solution until quite clean then rinse in weak vinegar and water. Ink on paper can be removed with a solution of oxalic or citric acid without injuring printing.

**To Drive Nails in Hard Wood.** Dip the ends in lard or tallow.

**Paint Houses** in the autumn rather than in the spring.

**To Clean Russia Iron.** Mix kerosene with common blacking.

**Sticky Varnish** can be dried by a coat of benzine. After two or three days another coat of varnish may be applied.

**To Cut Glass.** Wet the instrument in camphor gum dissolved in turpentine.

**To Mend China.** Use gum Arabic and plaster of Paris.

**Nickel Plated** fronts of grates should be rubbed with sweet oil and wrapped in brown paper before being stored.

**Clean Sponges** with lemon juice or wash them in buttermilk and they will be as good as new.

**To Clean Bottles.** Egg shells broken into small bits and shaken about in bottles half filled with cold water will remove stains from the bottles.

**To Renovate Morocco Leather** varnish with the white of an egg.

**Stamping Fluid.** To stamp on silk or velvet. Mix to a cream white lime and boiled oil with a little dryer such as is used with paint. Lay on the perforated pattern and apply the fluid with brush or finger evenly over the perforations. Clean the pattern immediately after using it by turning benzine over it and then wiping dry on both sides.

**Blue Impression Paper.** Mix Prussian blue powder with lard to a paste and apply it to thin paper with a rag. Wipe off as much as possible with a clean rag.

**To Copy Ferns.** Saturate them in porter and press between sheets of white paper in a book until perfectly dry.

**Fire Extinguisher.** Dissolve a quarter of a pound of pearl ash in water and keep it ready for use. In case of fire throw it into a bucket of water and pour it on the fire.

**Whitewash for Outside Buildings.** Slack one peck of lime in five gallons of water in which one pound of rice has been boiled until all dissolved. Pour the water on the lime hot and keep the mixture covered till the lime is all slacked, then add one pound of salt. Heat to boiling when ready to use.

**To Remove Old Paint** from woodwork slack three pounds of lime in water, add one pound of pearl ash; make it as thick as ordi-

nary paint. Lay this over the old paint with a brush. Let it remain from twelve to fourteen hours and you can scrape the paint off with ease.

**Paint for Iron Work** exposed to the weather can be made of half a gallon of varnish, half a gallon of boiled linseed oil, and red lead sufficient to make it the consistency of paint.

**To Clean Zinc.** Mix one part of sulphuric acid with twelve parts of water. Put this on the zinc with a swab and then rub off with a dry cloth.

**To Remove Rust From Steel.** Immerse the articles in kerosene for a few days. If any spots remain rub them with emery paper.

**Prevent Rust on Steel** by covering the surface with a mixture of equal parts of carbolic acid and olive oil. Or dust them with unslacked lime.

Or, cover with lard and rosin melted together—three parts lard, one part rosin.

Add to one quart of water one-half pound of quick lime; let the mixture stand until the surface is clear; pour off the clear liquid and stir it into olive oil until it becomes thick and creamy; rub articles which are to be put away with this mixture, and wrap them in thick paper.

**Rust in Show Cases.** This can be prevented by keeping a saucer of powdered quick lime in the case.

**Brass.** To keep highly polished brass from tarnishing cover it with a thin coat of varnish made of shellac dissolved in alcohol. Warm the brass when applying the varnish.

**To Clean Steel.** Mix one ounce of soft soap with two ounces of emery.

The older emery paper is, that is, the more it has been used, the better it will be for fine polishing, because the metal filled between the grains of emery forms a polishing powder of the metal itself.

Bronze may be renovated and recolored by the use of a mixture of one part of muriatic acid with two parts of water. After the article is freed from all grease and dirt the diluted acid is carefully applied with a cloth. When the solution is dry the article is well polished with fine olive oil.

**To Clean Brasses.** Salt and vinegar will do if the best pomades are not on hand. Oxalic acid and powdered pumice stone is also good.

**To Keep Paint Brushes.** When the brush is new, hold it upside down and pour in a teaspoonful of good varnish and keep the brush in that position until dry. When through painting clean the brush with turpentine, then with strong soapsuds, rinse in clear warm water, dry and put away wrapped in paper. Or keep it in a deep vessel containing enough linseed oil to cover the bristles of the brush.

**To Soften a Hard Brush.** If a paint brush has been allowed to dry, with the paint on, it may be softened in this way. Put turpentine in a shallow dish and set it on fire. (Do this out of doors.) Let it burn for a minute until hot, then smother out the flame and dip in the hard brush and work it about until the brush becomes limber.

**To Remove Mildew.** Wet the cloth in soft water and rub on plenty of soap and salt; hang it on the line in the sun and air for a few days.

**Grease Spots on Carpets.** Dry buckwheat flour sprinkled on thickly and a paper pinned over the spot for several hours will remove grease. Don't use water but brush briskly with a broom.

**Iron Rust.** Wet the cloth and rub on dry cream of tartar. Put where the sun will shine directly on it.

**Ink from Carpets.** Soak up the ink with cotton batting or soft paper as much as you can. Then dip a piece of the batting in milk and sop the ink spot with this changing the cotton and milk until the spot disappears. Then wash with clean hot water, afterwards with soap and water and finally with clear water. Wipe dry.

**Fruit Stains.** Most fruit stains can be removed by pouring boiling water through the stains before putting into the wash. Or, dampen the spot and hold it over the smoke of lighted brimstone.

**Tea Stains.** Clear boiling water will remove tea stains before washing.

**Old Fruit Stains.** Use a weak solution of oxalic acid. Rinse thoroughly with clear water. Wet again with ammonia and rinse as before.

**Grass Stains.** Rub in either molasses or alcohol till the stains disappear.

**Wagon Grease, Tar or Pitch.** Rub well with lard and then wash.

**Colors Lost** by acids must be treated with alkalies, as ammonia. Those injured by alkalies must have acids.

**Remove Paint** from cloth with turpentine and then wipe over the spot with alcohol.

**To Remove Marking Ink** from linen apply with a camel's hair brush a solution of cyanuret of potassium with cold water. Then wash and rinse.

**Bloodstains.** Apply thick paste of starch and cold water. Place in the sun and rub off in two hours. If not all removed try again.

**Iodine Stains.** Dip in cold water and hold before the fire till dry. Repeat if necessary.

**Paint.** To remove paint use four tablespoonsful of ammonia, four of alcohol and one of salt. Shake well and apply with a sponge.

**Stained Boards.** Muratic acid will take ink and other stains from boards. Wet whiting will sometimes do it.

**Fruit Stains.** Rub with camphor before washing.

**Ink Stains on white goods** can be removed with salt and lemon (or possibly by wet salt alone) and setting in the sun till the stain is removed. Keep the salt wet.

**Another Way** is to put the article in sweet milk and let it stand till the milk is sour.

**For Old Ink Stains.** Very bad stains may be removed in this way. Put into a fruit jar a spoonful of chloride of lime, pour upon this a little muriatic acid; moisten the stained spot with water and place it in the mouth of the jar, covering closely. Be careful not to let the material touch the mixture. The vapor arising will take out the stain.

**Ink From Hands.** A ripe tomato rubbed on will remove ink stains from the hands.

**To Purify Rain Water.** Hang a small bag of charcoal in the cistern.

**Alum** will purify water and precipitate earthy and vegetable matters contained in it.

**Cement for Glass and Metals.** Five parts black resin, melt and stir in one part yellow wax and, gradually one part red ochre, well dried and powdered. Melt to use.

**Marble Cement.** One pound gum Arabic made into thick paste, add to it half a pound of plaster of Paris and five ounces of sifted quick lime. Mix well, heat the marble and apply.

**Gas Fitters Cement.** Mix rosin, four and a half parts, wax one part, Venetian red three parts.

**To Mend Glass.** Five parts gelatine to one of acid chromate of lime. Expose to sunlight.

Or, cover glass, with pieces tied together, with cold salt water. Set it over the fire till the water boils well, then cool slowly.

**Cement for Gutters.** A good cement for gutters can be made of boiled paint skins with sand and fine lime mixed in thick while hot. Use it hot.

**Japanese Cement for fancy work.** It is almost transparent and very strong. Mix the best powdered rice with a little cold water. When perfectly smooth pour on boiling water, as for starch, stirring all the while. Then put it in a double kettle and boil for one minute.

**For Mending Dishes.** Use white lead paint with plenty of oil in it. Put the paint on the broken edges and tie the pieces firmly together. Wipe off the paint that oozes out and set the dish away where it will not be disturbed for months.

**Cement for Knife Handle.** When knife handles become loose fasten them with this cement. Four parts rosin, one part beeswax, one part plaster of Paris. Fill the hole with the cement then heat the steel of the handle and press it firmly in.

**Plaster of Paris** moistened with white of egg or gum Arabic water makes a good cement for broken crockery or glass.

**Coal Ashes** mixed with salt and water to a stiff paste will harden like a rock and make good cement for cracks in stoves, or can be used to reline a coal stove.

**Glue for Mounting Ferns.** A delicate glue for ferns or sea-weeds is made of five parts gum Arabic, three parts of white sugar, two parts of starch and a very little water. Boil until thick and white.

**To Glue on a Bright Metal Surface.** Dip the metal into a hot solution of washing soda and scrub clean, wiping perfectly dry. Then apply onion juice to the surface of the metal and paste the label on as usual.

**Good Glue.** To keep liquid, melt the glue and add a few drops of nitric acid.

**Macilage.** Dissolve clear glue in equal parts of water and strong vinegar add one-fourth part of alcohol and a little dissolved alum.

**Paste that will Keep for months if kept in a tight bottle** is made by dissolving a piece of alum the size of a walnut in a pint of boiling water to which is added two spoonfuls of flour made smooth in a little cold water. The mixture must then be boiled with a few cloves thrown in.

**Glue Insoluble in Water.** Dissolve glue and add about one-fifth part of potassium bichromate and expose the glued article to the light.

**The Art of Gummimg** neatly. Gum the back of the pictures all over and let them dry. Later dampen the gummed back and paste as desired.

**Paste for Wall Paper.** Starch makes a better paste than flour and is less expensive as it goes further.

**Powdered Chalk** added to glue will strengthen it.

**Mouth Glue.** One pound of gelatine dissolved in half a pound of brown sugar boiled thick. Cut in long narrow pieces while hot. Soften with the mouth for use.

**To Kill the Lime** on walls that are to be papered, a coating of glue size must be put on. For this break up a pound of glue in two gallons of cold water to stand twenty-four hours. Then heat until it is melted. Put it on the wall hot giving two coats. Hot vinegar is sometimes used on the walls before the sizing is put on.

**To Remove Old Paper.** Dampen it all over with salsaratus and water and scrape while moist. It is well to wash the wall with a weak solution of carbolic acid before repapering to insure against infection or insects.

**Paste for Papering.** Add one ounce of glue and half an ounce of borax, to each gallon of paste. Make the paste of wheat or rye flower or of corn starch. Let the paper lie a few minutes after the paste is on before hanging it.

**To Trim Paper.** Do not trim the edges at once. Cut your lengths and match them according to the margin marks, then paste and fold the paper double, being careful to have the edges even. After this trim the edges, cutting double pieces.

**Old Wall Paper** can be cleaned by rubbing carefully with a flannel dipped in oatmeal. Or, by using a piece of raw dough, taking care to rub in straight lengths down from top to bottom. Change the dough frequently.

**Borders of Wall Paper** may be tacked on with small tacks and taken down when the ceilings are whitened.

**Grease from Wall Paper.** Make a paste of Fuller's earth and water and rub carefully.

**To Etch on Steel.** Clean the surface thoroughly and then spread on a thin coating of beeswax or paraffine. With a needle or other point draw, or write, through the wax to the steel. Paint over this with a mixture of six parts of nitric acid to one of muriatic acid. When the bubbles cease to rise the work is done. Wash in strong soda water.

**Ink for Marking Linen** with type. Dissolve one part of asphalatum in four parts of oil of turpentine and a sufficient quantity of black lead or lampblack to be of proper consistency for type.

**A Varnish to Make Glass Opaque.** Pound gum tragacanth into powder and let it stand for twenty-four hours in whites of eggs well beaten. Lay a coat of this on the glass with a soft brush and let it dry.

**To Remove Writing Ink** from a printed page. To three quarts of muriatic acid add one-half part of red oxide lead. Pour it on the page and immediately wash it off with clear water.

**Mats for Pictures.** These can be cheaply and prettily made by using common blotting paper, cutting out the space desired for an opening.

**Ebony Stain for Furniture.** Use tube oil, blue-black, for staining unvarnished wood. If the color sinks in very much repeat the process.

**Waterproof Shoeblocking.** Dissolve one ounce of borax in water and in this dissolve gum shellac until it is the consistency of

thin paste, add lampblack to color and also a spoonful of camphor water.

**Avoid a Damp Cellar.** When the cellar is damp it soon becomes moldy. To avoid this, the windows should only be opened at night, and late—the last thing before retiring. There is no need to fear that the night air is unhealthful—it is as pure as the air of midday, and is really drier. The cool air enters the apartment during the night, and circulates through it. The windows should be closed before sunrise in the morning, and kept closed and shaded through the day. If the cellar is damp, it may be thoroughly dried by placing in it a peck of fresh lime and charcoal in an open box.

**To Drive Away Mice.** Copperas, hops, and camphor gum are all good things to keep away mice. Put it in bureau drawers or other places exposed to them. Dough is said to catch rats better than cheese.

**Moths.** Take cloves, cedar chips and rhubarb one ounce each. Pulverize and sprinkle in the chest. This gives a pleasant odor and keeps away moths.

Or, mix half a pint of alcohol, half a pint of turpentine and two ounces of camphor. Keep in a stone bottle and shake before using. Dip crumpled pieces of blotting paper in the liquid and place amongst the clothes put away in the spring.

Thoroughly brush woolen clothes immediately before putting away. Wrap each article in newspaper, tie up and label. Do not use any preparation which will be offensive when the garment is to be worn again.

**Fleas from Dogs.** Make a bag of strong goods just large enough to hold the dog. Run a tape in the top. Put a cup full of insect powder in the bag, sprinkling it around the sides. Put the dog into the bag tying the draw strings around his neck, leaving his head out. Rub his body well with the bag and shake it about; leave him in the bag for fifteen minutes then take out the dog and burn the dead fleas found in the bottom of the bag.

**To Kill Vermin on Plants or Animals.** Pour one gallon of boiling water on one pound of tobacco leaves.

A strong boiling solution of alum water is sure death to all insects and is safe and clean. Take two pounds of powdered alum to three quarts of boiling water. Apply hot.

**Cockroaches.** Mix powdered borax with sugar and scatter about where they come. A few drops of turpentine is sometimes effective.

**To Kill or Drive Away Ants.** Sprigs of wintergreen will drive away red ants, and branches of wormwood will drive away black ants.

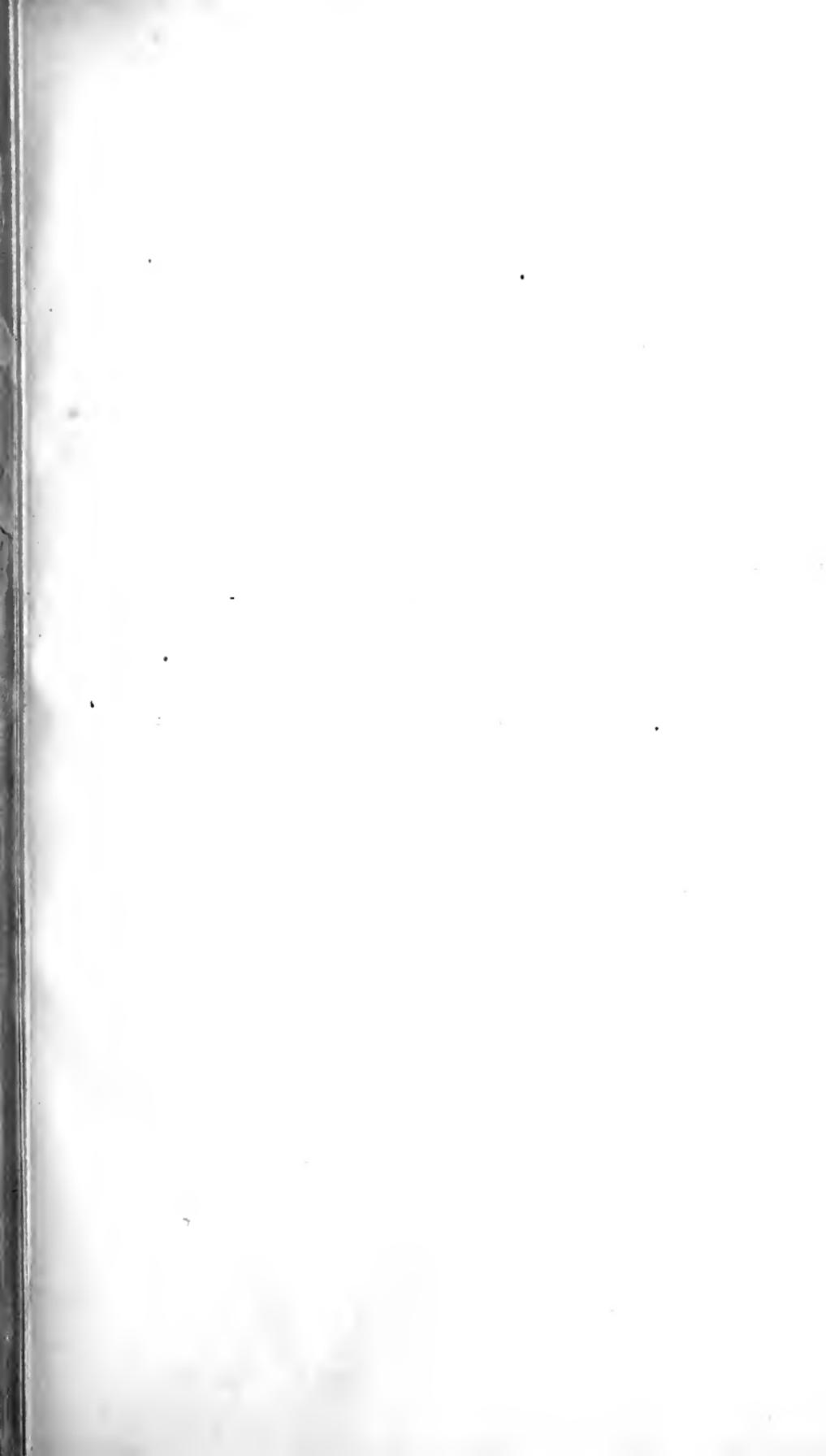
Or, scatter whole cloves on pantry shelves, renewing frequently.

Or, cayenne peper may be used.

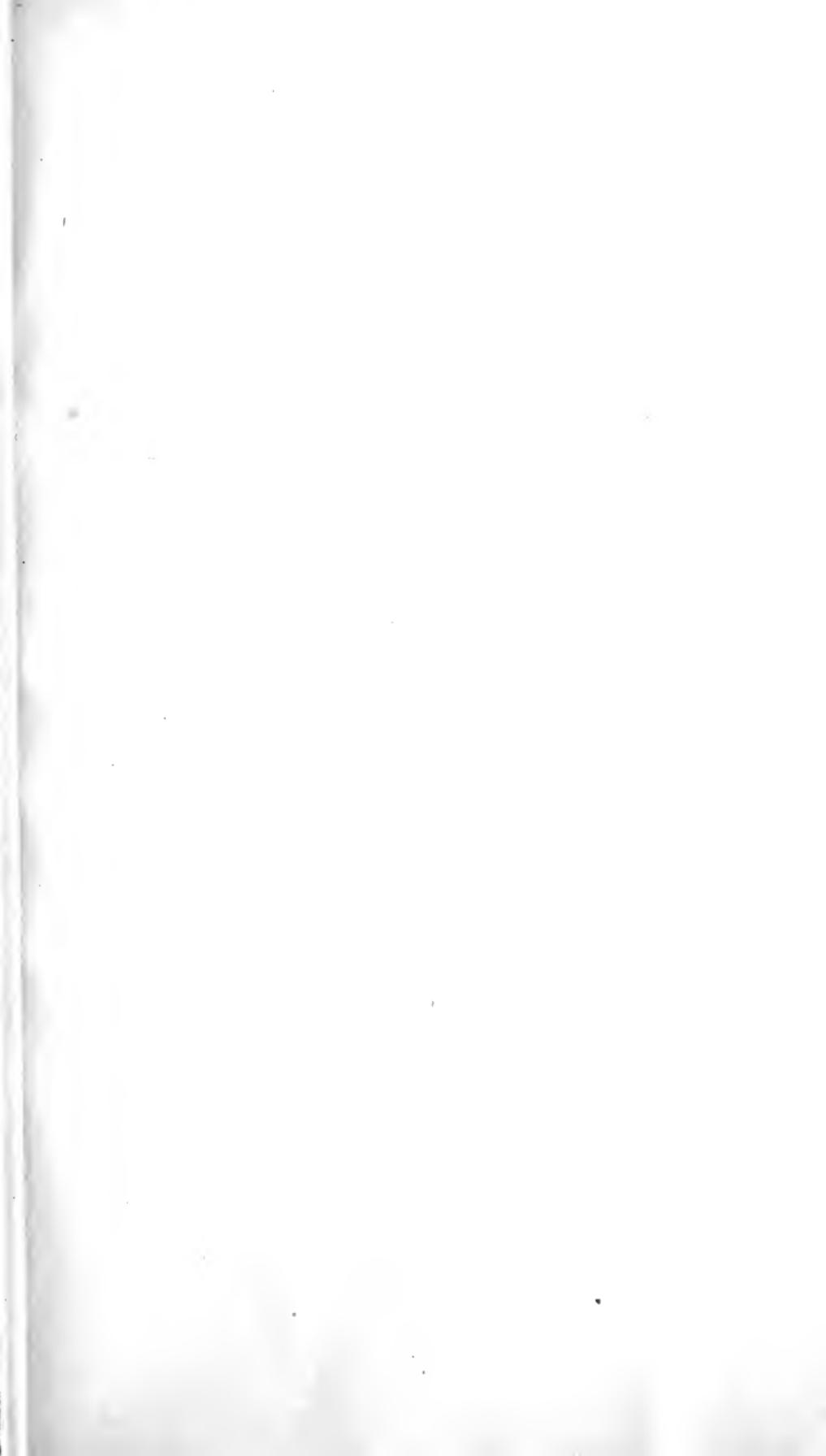
Or, powdered alum, or a strong solution of carbolic acid.

Saturate a sponge with some sweetened liquid and place it accessible to the insects. When they discover it they will swarm through it, when it may be thrown into boiling water.

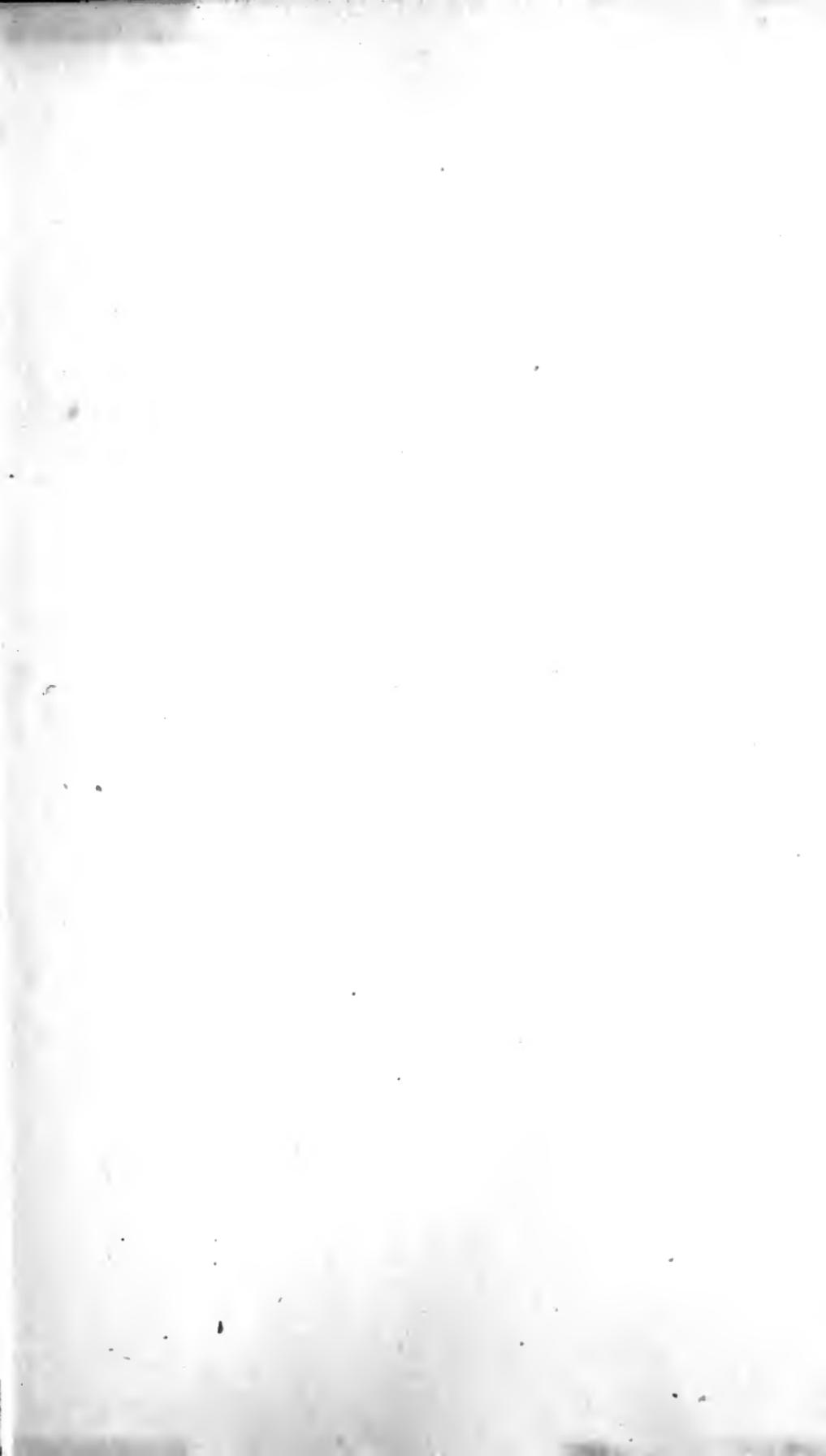
**Bed Bugs.** Take all beds apart early in March and wash them with hot alum water. If any bugs are found apply in all cracks mercurial ointment, to be bought at a druggist, and examine the beds *every day* until all trace of them is gone.











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